

1           What is claimed is:

2           1.       A method of designing an assessment that divides the assessment design process  
3        into a plurality of phases, and each of the phases includes objects for organizing information  
4        associated with one or more phases.

5           2.       The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases includes domain analysis,  
6        domain modeling, and conceptual assessment framework.

7           3.       The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of the objects include properties  
8        associated with a specific kind of assessment design information and a particular phase of the  
9        assessment design process.

10          4.       The method of claim 1, wherein the method is an evidence-centered assessment  
11        design process.

12          5.       The method of claim 4, wherein the design process supports reuse of design  
13        components for other products and other purposes.

14          6.       The method of claim 5, wherein the process supports model building.

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16          7.       A computer system for designing an assessment through a plurality of modules  
17        associated with different phases of an assessment design process, the modules utilizing objects  
18        for organizing information associated with one or more phases.

19          8.       The computer system of claim 7, wherein the plurality of phases includes domain  
20        analysis, domain modeling, and conceptual assessment framework.

1        9.     The computer system of claim 7, wherein one or more of the objects include  
2     properties associated with a specific kind of assessment design information and a particular  
3     phase of the assessment design process.

4        10.    The computer system of claim 7, wherein the assessment design process is an  
5     evidence-centered assessment design process.

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7        11.    The computer system of claim 7, wherein the process supports model building,  
8     storage, retrieval, and export capabilities .  
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